



U.S. Department of Energy

~~Office of River Protection~~

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0059415

03-TOD-027

MAY 06 2003

Mr. Michael A. Wilson, Program Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program  
State of Washington  
Department of Ecology  
1315 W. Fourth Avenue  
Kennewick, Washington 99336

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MAY 16 2003

EDMC

Dear Mr. Wilson:

UPDATE OF SALTCAKE DISSOLUTION DEMONSTRATION IN 241-U-107

- References: 1. ORP letter from H. L. Boston to M. A. Wilson, Ecology, "U-107 Saltcake Dissolution Demonstration," 01-REQ-043, dated August 28, 2001.
2. Ecology letter from M. A. Wilson to H. L. Boston, ORP, "U-107 Saltcake Dissolution Demonstration," dated September 13, 2001.

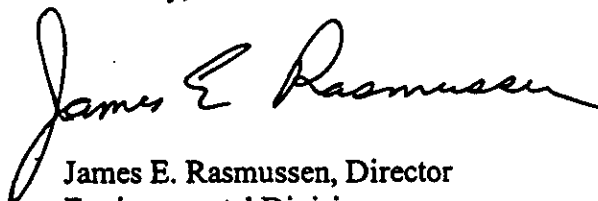
The U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection is providing an update on the saltcake demonstration for tank 241-U-107 proposed in Reference 1. The demonstration was acknowledged, with additional direction, in Reference 2.

Dissolution began on December 3, 2002 and ended on February 5, 2003 with 10,601 gallons of dissolution water added, of the original 100,000 gallons initially planned. The early termination was based on selection of retrieval technologies for accelerated retrieval that are no longer consistent with the slower dissolution process. Since termination of the demonstration, tank 241-U-107 has been returned to the interim stabilization program. A record was kept of dissolution water that was added and waste removed during the demonstration so that interim stabilization records are correct.

Periodic results of the dissolution demonstration were reported to Ecology by email but a formal definition of the contents of those reports was never provided as requested by email. A formal report on the shortened demonstration is being prepared and will be provided by June 30, 2003.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Andrew Stevens, Tank Farms Operations Division, (509) 376-8235.

Sincerely,

  
James E. Rasmussen, Director  
Environmental Division

TOD:AJ5

cc: See page 2

Mr. Michael A. Wilson  
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cc w/attach:

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